



TOWN NEWSLETTER

Volume XXVII No. 3

September 2004

CALENDAR

Sept. 1, 28, 29, 30 -
**Pathway Map Public
Hearings;** Bullis
Multipurpose Room;
Call: 941-7222



Sept. 11, 18, 25 **Donor
Wall Tile Workshops** at
Bullis Multipurpose
Room, Time: See Insert
**Call: Duffy Price at
948-0596**

Sept. 15 - Wed.
Disaster Exercise; 20
Volunteers Needed. Call:
Steve Garcia at 941-
7222

Sept. 18, YARD
WASTE Cleanup -
"Tree trimmings"; 9-2
PM at Foothill College;
Hwy. 280 Park'Rides;
Westwind Barn. (Next
Dates: Oct.16; Nov.20;
Dec. 18)

Oct. 6; **CERT
Training;** Call: Steve
Garcia at 941-7222

Nov. 2 Tues.,
ELECTION DAY; 3
LAH City Council seats
up for election. **Don't
Forget to Vote!**

FIRE DEPARTMENT OFFERS WILDFIRE SURVIVAL TIPS FOR
LOS ALTOS HILLS RESIDENTS

For those who live in wooded areas, the benefits of the natural rustic beauty also bring an added risk of fire. The tragic San Diego fires last year were a dramatic indicator of



Above picture shows a home that survived a fire in N. CA with a 30 ft. fire break around the house.

the dangers that exist in many areas of our community. The recent fire in Carson City, Nevada illustrates how fast such fires can spread.

All vegetation, including naturally occurring native plants and ornamental plants, is potential wildfire fuel. If vegetation is properly modified and maintained, a wildfire can be slowed, the length of flames shortened, and the amount of heat reduced, all of which assist firefighters to defend a home against an oncoming wildfire.

To help Los Altos Hills residents better safeguard their homes and property from wildfires, the Santa Clara County Fire Department offers the following list of preventative measures that, when completed,

will greatly reduce the risk of loss or damage to your home in the event of a hillside fire.

1. Remove all flammable vegetation a MINIMUM of 30 feet around all structures. Clear ornamental shrubbery and trees of dead leaves and branches.
2. Remove all pine needles and leaves from roofs, eaves and rain gutters.
3. Trim tree limbs 10 feet away from chimneys or stovepipes and remove any dead limbs hanging over rooftops.
4. Cover chimney outlets or flues with a spark arresting, 1/2" mesh, screen.
5. Post a clearly visible house address, using at least 4" high numbers, for easy identification.

The Los Altos Hills County Fire District mailed to each Los Altos Hills homeowner a comprehensive publication entitled "Living with Fire in Santa Clara County" that is a step-by-step guidebook on how to make your home safe from wildfire.

If you have additional questions, or would like to request additional copies of the "Living with Fire in Santa Clara County" publication, please contact the County Fire Office of Public Education at 408-341.4485 or visit the Santa Clara County Fire Department website at www.sccfd.org.

COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM

Local government prepares for many kinds of local emergencies, but a large-scale disaster may overwhelm the community's emergency responders causing significant delays in getting to those who need help. Assistance from trained volunteers is crucial. The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) is a group of Los Altos and Los Altos Hills residents who volunteer to give critical support to emergency responders. They offer immediate care for victims, organize spontaneous volunteers at a disaster site and collect information to support first responder efforts. The CERT program creates a partnership between first responders and the community in training citizens to help themselves, their families and their neighbors in emergencies. The Los Altos Police Department will offer CERT training program beginning October 6, 2004. Interested residents will meet once a week for four Wednesday nights from 6 to 9 PM and learn essential skills, including disaster preparedness. The weekly sessions are followed by a hands-on session on Saturday, October 23, 2004 from 9 AM to 5 PM.

Participants pay \$90 for a CERT backpack, which includes a team vest, helmet, gloves, and basic first aid and disaster response supplies. For more information, please contact Police Agent John Korges at (650) 947-2681 or e-mail john.korges@ci.los-altos.ca.us.

